

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

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| IN RE: MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY | DOCKET NO. RPU-2009-0003 |
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY
FILED AUGUST 14, 2012**

(Issued August 20, 2012)

On August 14, 2012, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for confidential treatment of portions of its Wind VII Iowa project update. The information for which confidential treatment is sought includes pricing and payment information pertaining to the project. MidAmerican supported the request for confidentiality with an affidavit by a corporate officer. The material for which confidentiality was requested was filed separately. MidAmerican cited Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 22.7(6) (2011) as authority for confidential treatment of the data.

MidAmerican claims the information is a report to a governmental agency that, if released, would give advantage to competitors and serve no public purpose and, therefore, should be held confidential pursuant to § 22.7(6). MidAmerican states disclosure of the pricing and payment information to potential wind project vendors and MidAmerican's competitors would hurt MidAmerican's negotiating and competitive position in future efforts to add reasonably priced wind generation.

The information in question qualifies as a report to a government agency. Based on the affidavit submitted by MidAmerican, release of such information serves no public purpose. Therefore, the Board will hold the information confidential pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7(6).

The filed information may also be confidential as a trade secret pursuant to Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 550.2(4). However, because the Board finds the information should be held confidential under § 22.7(6), the Board does not reach the question of whether the information is a trade secret or a communication not required by law.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for confidentiality filed by MidAmerican Energy Company on August 14, 2012, is granted.
2. The information shall be held confidential by the Board subject to the provisions of 199 IAC 1.9(8)"b"(3).

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

/s/ Darrell Hanson

ATTEST:

/s/ Joan Conrad
Executive Secretary

/s/ Swati A. Dandekar

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 20th day of August 2012.